

Employee Survey of Transportation

August 1991

Employees of major employers in the Des Moines metropolitan area are being asked to participate in a study being conducted in the Des Moines area for the Iowa Department of Transportation. The purpose of this study is to identify attitudes and potential use of alternative commuting patterns in the community. Findings from the Employee Survey will help planners and engineers determine what improvements should be made to the transportation system serving your community through the year 2020. Your employer has made a commitment to this study and has provided us with this opportunity to contact you. Please do your part to support the study by completing the questionnaire and returning it to the designated location in your company.

In appreciation of employee participation, a drawing will be held for a \$100 cash prize from among those employees returning the completed form and including their name and a daytime telephone number. Employees of Wilbur Smith Associates, the Dunbar/Jones Partnership, and their immediate families are ineligible.

Thank you for your assistance in this important local study. Your input can have an impact on the future of your community.

1. **Work Site:** **63 reporting employers** (Total employee surveys = 14,481)
2. **Home Location:** A. Please identify the zip code in which you live? (N=14,455) 213 reported zip codes
B. What is your home address or the street intersection nearest you? NA
3. **Travel Time :** A. Home to work? (N=14,394) Mean = 20.4 Minutes
B. Work to home? (N=14,323) Mean = 21.9 Minutes
4. **Work Schedule:** Which schedule most closely approximates your current work schedule for Monday thru Friday? (N=14,438)
91%= Day shift 3%= Evening shift 2%= Night shift 4%= Irregular shift
5. **Current Means of Transportation:** (check all that apply) (N=14,481)
92%= Automobile 1%= Bicycle 9%= Metro Bus Service
9%= Carpool or Vanpool 3%= Walking 1%= Other
6. **I-235 Usage:** Do you currently use I-235 to travel from: (N=14,081)
A. Home to work? 39%= Always or nearly always 7%= Sometimes or irregularly 54%= Rarely or never
B. Work to home? 38%= Always or nearly always 9%= Sometimes or irregularly 53%= Rarely or never
7. **Transportation Alternatives:** Have you ever used any of the following alternatives for transportation to work? If yes, how often did you use this form of transportation? If improved or enhanced, would you be likely to use the following transportation alternatives to travel to work in the future? (check all that apply) (N=14,481)

<u>Transportation Alternative</u>	<u>a. Used in Past or Present</u>	<u>b. Frequency of Use</u>	<u>c. Would Use in Future</u>
A. Bicycle	5%= Yes	1%= Daily 2%= 2-3 times per week 2%= 1-2 times per month	8%= Yes
B. Metro Bus Service	26%= Yes	13%= Daily 4%= 2-3 times per week 7%= 1-2 times per month	33%= Yes
C. Carpool or vanpool	29%= Yes	17%= Daily 5%= 2-3 times per week 5%= 1-2 times per month	38%= Yes
8. **Current Transportation Determinants:** Which of the following factors most influences your decisions regarding transportation alternatives to and from work at the present time? (check all that apply) (N=14,481)

80%= Convenience	24%= Cost	26%= Weather	6%= Do not own a bicycle
14%= Job requires a car	10%= Energy consumption	2%= Do not own a car	37%= Travel time
49%= Home location	38%= Work location	26%= Bus route not available	16%= Other _____

9. Future Transportation Determinants: If initiated, which of the following factors might influence your decisions regarding transportation alternatives to and from work in the future? (check all that apply) (N=14,481)

- 44%= Greater convenience of public transit (i.e., additional routes, neighborhood transit stops)
- 22%= Equal employee subsidies for parking and transit (i. e., employer pays equal amount on parking and transit cost)
- 18%= Work rescheduling alternatives (i.e., different schedule or location)
- 9%= I-235 ramp metering (i.e., traffic signals for entrance ramps to regulate traffic flow)
- 26%= Energy consumption and air pollution concerns
- 4%= Greater housing availability in downtown Des Moines (i.e., convenience to job)
- 13%= Change in job requirements (e.g., car no longer required, different dress required)
- 12%= Availability of job site lockers, showers, bicycle storage, and bikeways
- 24%= Availability of rail transit system (commuter train)
- 23%= Greater availability of carpool or vanpool participants
- 12%= Special lanes on I-235 for busses and carpools
- 22%= Construction or improvement of new highways and local streets
- 27%= Improving traffic flows on major streets, such as Grand Avenue and University Avenue
- 41%= Increased cost of driving (e.g., increased cost for parking or gasoline prices of more than \$2.50 per gallon)
- 20%= Greater congestion on I-235
- 7%= Other: Child care/errands/irregular hours/health reasons

10. Demographics: Please help us understand who you are by completing the remainder of this survey.

A. Age at last birthday: (N=14,224)

8%= Under 25 75%= 25 to 50 16%= Over 50

B. Sex: (N=14,117)

65%= Female 35%= Male

C. Marital Status: (N=14,140)

32%= Single (never married/divorced/widowed) 68%= Married

D. Educational level completed: (N=14,204)

<1%= Less than high school 9%= Technical degree
23%= High school 26%= 4-year college degree
27%= Some college 14%= Professional or graduate degree

E. Occupational category in which you work: (N=13,813)

16%= Managerial 31%= Professional
29%= Technical, sales, & administrative support 2%= Precision production, craft & repair
18%= Service 4%= Operators, fabricators, & laborers

F. Income (gross household income for 1990): (N=14,481)

8%= Less than \$15,000 20%= \$35,000 to \$49,999
21%= \$15,000 to \$24,999 17%= \$50,000 to \$74,999
18%= \$25,000 to \$34,999 7%= More than \$75,000
8%= No response

Thank you for your participation. Please return your completed survey by _____, 1991 to:

If you wish to participate in the random drawing for the \$100 cash prize, please complete the bottom portion of this form. The drawing will be on or about September 15, 1991. The winner will be announced in the transportation study newsletter and in the Des Moines Register.

Contest participant: 71% = Yes